# Common Sense with Annotated Louis Aragon: A Comprehensive Analysis and Review

Common Sense, written by Thomas Paine and annotated by Louis Aragon, is a seminal work in American history that played a pivotal role in galvanizing the American colonists towards independence. First published in 1776, it became an instant bestseller and has been praised for its powerful prose and persuasive arguments. This article provides a comprehensive analysis and review of Common Sense, examining its historical context, main themes, and the significance of Aragon's annotations.



#### Common Sense: With Annotated by Louis Aragon

**★** ★ ★ ★ 4.5 out of 5 Language : English : 879 KB File size : Enabled Text-to-Speech Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 87 pages Lendina : Enabled



#### **Historical Context**

Common Sense was written during a tumultuous period in American history. The American colonies were on the brink of revolt against British rule, and tensions were high. Paine, an Englishman who had emigrated to

America, was a staunch advocate for independence and saw the need for a clear and concise statement of the case for American freedom.

#### **Main Themes**

Common Sense is a powerful and persuasive work that argues for American independence on several grounds. Paine begins by asserting that all men are created equal and have the natural right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. He then argues that the British government has failed to uphold these rights and that the colonists have the right to revolt and establish their own government.

Paine also attacks the British monarchy, arguing that it is an outdated and oppressive institution. He compares the British king to a "royal brute" and argues that the colonists should not be ruled by someone who is not accountable to them.

#### **Aragon's Annotations**

In the 1940s, the French poet and intellectual Louis Aragon published an annotated edition of Common Sense. Aragon's annotations provide a valuable historical and literary context for Paine's work. He identifies the sources of Paine's ideas, explains the historical events that influenced his writing, and provides insights into the social and political climate of the time.

Aragon's annotations also provide a personal interpretation of Common Sense. He praises Paine's work as a "masterpiece of political thinking" and argues that it is still relevant in the modern world. He also uses Paine's ideas to critique the rise of fascism and other forms of tyranny.

#### **Significance**

Common Sense with Annotated Louis Aragon is a valuable and insightful work that provides a comprehensive understanding of one of the most important documents in American history. Paine's powerful prose and persuasive arguments remain relevant today, and Aragon's annotations provide a valuable historical and literary context.

This work is essential reading for anyone who is interested in American history, politics, or literature. It is a powerful and thought-provoking work that will challenge your assumptions and inspire you to think critically about the world around you.



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